RAW-HIDE KID

WITHOUT CONSCIENCE, WITHOUT MERCY, THEY WERE A LAW UNTO THEMSELVES...

"THE PLUNDERERS!"

STAN LEE, *EDITOR*

LARRY LIEBER, *SCRIPT AND ART*

VINCE COLLETTA, *INKING*

ARTIE SIMEK *LETTERING*

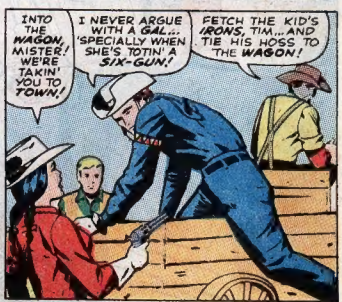
THE MIGHTY MARVEL WESTERN is published by MAGAZINE MANAGEMENT CO., INC. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 625 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10022. Published bi-monthly. Copyright ©1970 by Magazine Management Co., Inc., Marvel Comics Group, all rights reserved, 625 Madison Avenue, New York, N. Y. 10022. Vol. 1, No. 10 September, 1970 issue. Price 25¢ per copy. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. Printed in the U.S.A. by World Color Press, Inc., Sparta, Illinois 62286. Subscription rate $3.50 and $4.00 Canada for 12 issues including postage. Foreign subscriptions $3.00.

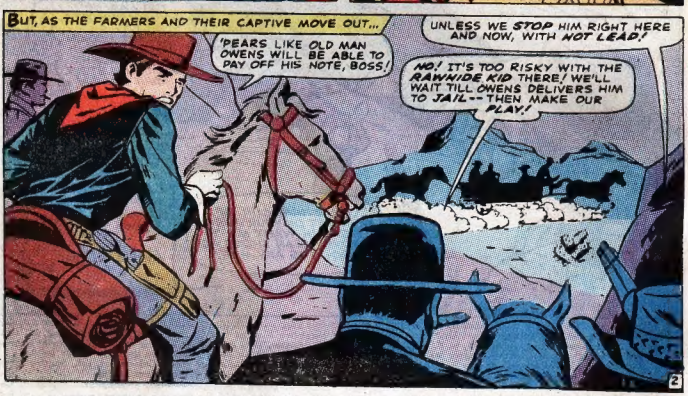
Rawhide Kid reprinted courtesy of Atlas Magazines, Inc., copyright ©1965. Two-Gun Kid reprinted courtesy of Non-Pareil Publishing Co., copyright ©1965. Kid Colt reprinted courtesy of Leading Magazine Corp., copyright ©1964. The Passenger reprinted courtesy of Atlas Magazines, Inc., Copyright (c) 1966.

OKAY, YOU'VE GOT ME! BUT WHY? WE'VE NEVER CROSSED TRAILS BEFORE!
IT'S NOTHIN' PERSONAL, KID...
THERE'S A PRICE ON YOUR HEAD, AND WE'RE AFTER IT!

PA, MEBBE WE SHOULDN'T --I MEAN, THE KID NEVER DONE US NO HARM!
HE'S A WANTED CRIMINAL, AINT HE? 'SIDES, WE NEED THE REWARD MONEY TO PAY OFF OUR MORTGAGE... OR WE'LL LOSE THE FARM!

I COULD GRAB HER GUN AND MAKE A BREAK FOR IT... BUT NOT WITHOUT RISKING LIVES!
THEY'RE AN INNOCENT, LAW-ABIDING FAMILY! I DON'T WANT TO HARM THEM! I'LL HAVE TO BIDE MY TIME...


INTO THE WAGON, MISTER! WE'RE TAKIN' YOU TO TOWN!
I NEVER ARGUE WITH A GAL... 'SPECIALLY WHEN SHE'S TOTIN' A SIX-GUN!
FETCH THE KID'S IRONS, TIM... AND TIE HIS HOSS TO THE WAGON!


BUT, AS THE FARMERS AND THEIR CAPTIVE MOVE OUT...
'PEARS LIKE OLD MAN OWENS WILL BE ABLE TO PAY OFF HIS NOTE, BOSS!
UNLESS WE STOP HIM RIGHT HERE AND NOW, WITH NOT LEAD!
NO! IT'S TOO RISKY WITH THE RAWHIDE KID THERE! WE'LL WAIT TILL OWENS DELIVERS HIM TO JAIL--THEN MAKE OUR PLAY!

THUS, A SHORT WHILE LATER...

THAT YOUNG MAN--WHO IS HE? WHY IS HE BEING HELD AT GUNPOINT?

I'VE SEEN HIS PICTURE! I RECOGNIZE HIM! HE'S THE RAWHIDE KID!

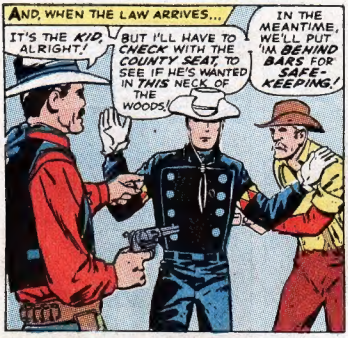
THE TOWNSFOLK--FRIGHTENED--TREMBLING AT THE SIGHT OF THE NOTORIOUS RAWHIDE KID!

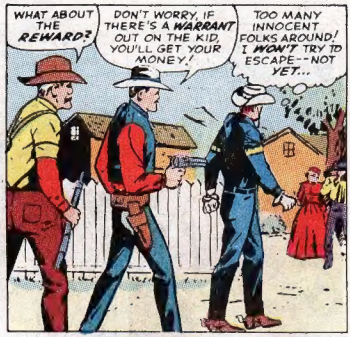
HOW MANY FEARFUL FACES LIKE THESE HAVE I SEEN BEFORE?

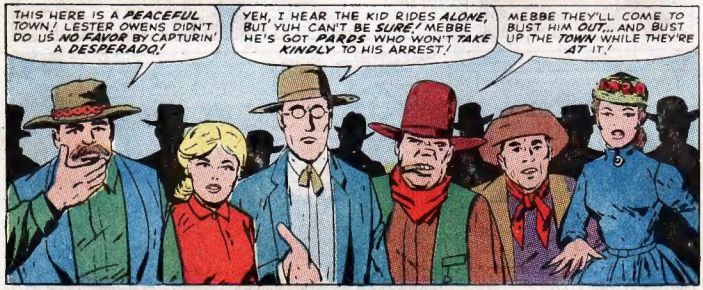
WILL IT EVER END? CAN IT EVER END?

STAY BACK! DON'T GET TOO CLOSE TO HIM!

SOMEONE GET THE SHERIFF--PRONTO!


AND, WHEN THE LAW ARRIVES...
IT'S THE KID, ALRIGHT!
BUT I'LL HAVE TO CHECK WITH THE COUNTY SEAT, TO SEE IF HE'S WANTED IN THIS NECK OF THE WOODS!
IN THE MEANTIME, WE'LL PUT 'IM BEHIND BARS FOR SAFE-KEEPING!


WHAT ABOUT THE REWARD?
DON'T WORRY, IF THERE'S A WARRANT OUT ON THE KID, YOU'LL GET YOUR MONEY!
TOO MANY INNOCENT FOLKS AROUND! I WON'T TRY TO ESCAPE--NOT YET...

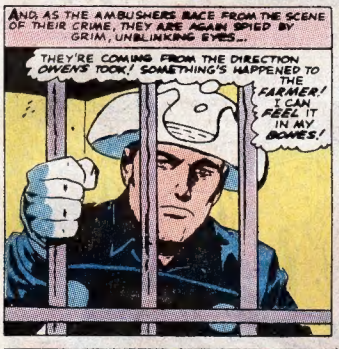

THIS HERE IS A PEACEFUL TOWN! LESTER OWENS DIDN'T DO US NO FAVOR BY CAPTURIN' A DESPERADO!
YEH, I HEAR THE KID RIDES ALONE, BUT YUH CAN'T BE SURE! MEBBE HE'S GOT PARDS WHO WON'T TAKE KINDLY TO HIS ARREST!
MEBBE THEY'LL COME TO BUST HIM OUT... AND BUST UP THE TOWN WHILE THEY'RE AT IT!

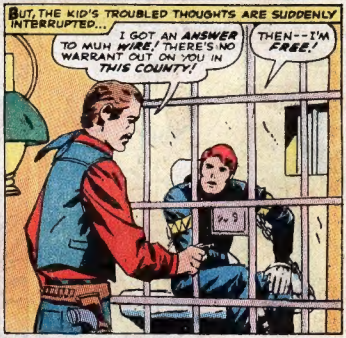
AND, WHILE FEARS MOUNT...
THOSE TWO MEN ACROSS THE STREET, GOIN' INTO THE ALLEY--THEY LOOK LIKE ROUGH CUSTOMERS!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY'RE UP TO, BUT, I'LL BET MY BOOTS IT'S TROUBLE!

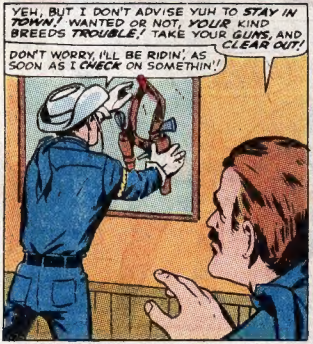
AND, UNSEEN BY THE KID, THE MEN EMERGE FROM THE OTHER END OF THE ALLEY, MASKED AND ARMED...
REMEMBER, THE BOSS SAID NO SHOOTIN'!
DON'T FRET, WE WON'T NEED TO FIRE A SHOT!

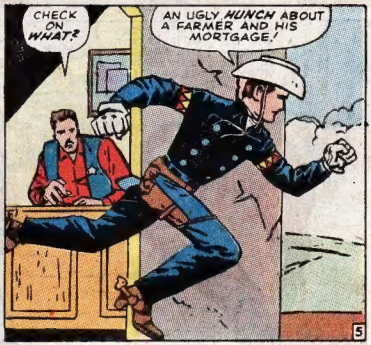
YOU--SODBUSTER--I DON'T KNOW HOW YUH MANAGED TO CAPTURE OUR PARD, THE KID; BUT WE AINT ABOUT TO LET YUH GET RICH ON IT!
YEH, THIS IS JUST A WARNIN'! DON'T TRY TO COLLECT THAT RE-WARD! IF YUH DO, WE'LL BE BACK TO FINISH THE JOB!
WHOMP!

THINK IT'LL WORK?
SURE! WHEN THE OLD MAN COMES TO, HE'LL BLAME TWO HOMBRES WHO CAN'T BE FOUND, 'CAUSE THEY DON'T EXIST!
AND, AS LONG AS THE KID'S AMIGOS ARE "ON THE LOOSE" OWENS WILL BE TOO SCARED TO CLAIM THE MONEY!


AND, AS THE AMBUSHERS RACE FROM THE SCENE OF THEIR CRIME, THEY ARE AGAIN SPIED BY GRIM, UNBLINKING EYES...
THEY'RE COMING FROM THE DIRECTION OWENS TOOK! SOMETHING'S HAPPENED TO THE FARMER! I CAN FEEL IT IN MY BONES!


BUT, THE KID'S TROUBLED THOUGHTS ARE SUDDENLY INTERRUPTED...
I GOT AN ANSWER TO MUH WIRE! THERE'S NO WARRANT OUT ON YOU IN THIS COUNTY!
THEN--I'M FREE!


YEH, BUT I DON'T ADVISE YUH TO STAY IN TOWN! WANTED OR NOT, YOUR KIND BREEDS TROUBLE! TAKE YOUR GUNS, AND CLEAR OUT!
DON'T WORRY, I'LL BE RIDIN', AS SOON AS I CHECK ON SOMETHIN'!

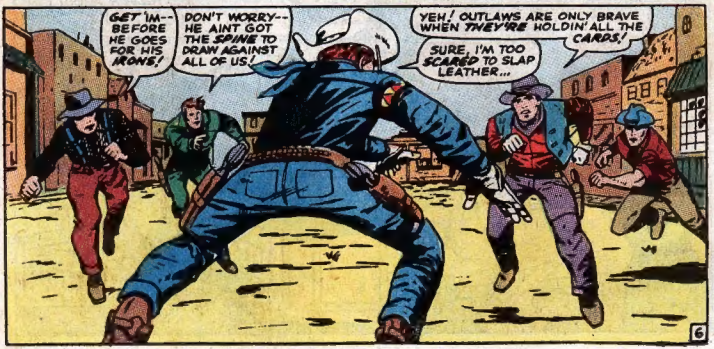

CHECK ON WHAT?
AN UGLY HUNCH ABOUT A FARMER AND HIS MORTGAGE!

I WAS RIGHT! THE FARMER IS OUT COLD! IT MUST BE THE WORK OF THOSE TWO GALOOTS!
HE'S STIRRING... HE'S COMING TO!

YOU!! IT WAS YOUR PARDS THAT DONE THIS TO ME!
HUH? WHAT ARE YOU TALKIN' ABOUT? I RIDE ALONE!

IN A PIG'S EYE YUH DO! I HEARD YOUR OWL-HOOT FRIENDS LOUD AND CLEAR! GET AWAY FROM ME!
WAIT--COME BACK! YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND! YOU'VE BEEN TRICKED!

BUT, THE FARMER IS TOO FRIGHTENED TO LISTEN TO REASON... AND THE ENSUING SCENE IS MISINTERPRETED BY THE STARTLED ONLOOKERS!
IT'S THE RAWHIDE KID! HE'S CHASIN' AFTER OWENS!
THE KID MUST'VE BROKEN OUT OF JAIL--TO SETTLE ACCOUNTS WITH THE MAN WHO CAPTURED HIM!
WE CAN'T LET THAT GUNHAWK CLOBBER A HELP-LESS OLD SOD-BUSTER! C'MON!

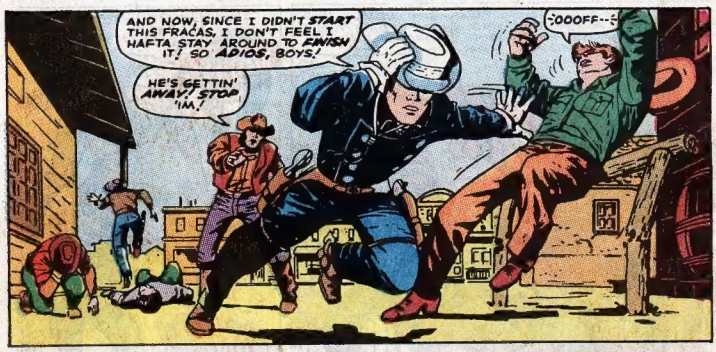

GET 'IM--BEFORE HE GOES FOR HIS IRONS!
DON'T WORRY--HE AINT GOT THE SPINE TO DRAW AGAINST ALL OF US!
YEH! OUTLAWS ARE ONLY BRAVE WHEN THEY'RE HOLDIN' ALL THE CARDS!
SURE, I'M TOO SCARED TO SLAP LEATHER...

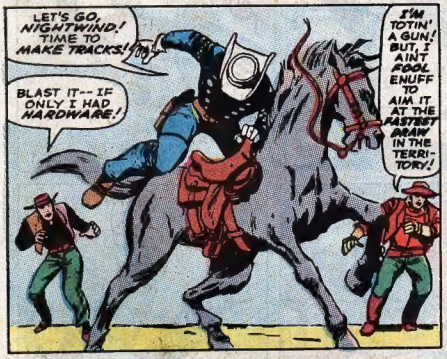
...SCARED THAT I MIGHT HURT SOME WELL-MEANING HARDHEADS, WHO WOULDN'T STAND A CHANCE AGAINST ME IN A GUNFIGHT!
SO I'LL HAVE TO DO THE JOB WITHOUT IRONS--LIKE SO!
GOL-DANG! HE SURE KNOWS HOW TO TOSS A PUNCH!
THOK!
UNHHH--

THAT'S IT, FRANK--GRAB 'IM!
I GOT 'IM NOW!
WRONG, MISTER! THE ONLY THING YOU'RE GETTING...
POW!

...IS A FAKE RIDE THRU THE AIR!
HHA--

THUD!
A RIDE THAT ENDS WITH AN ACHIN' BACK!


AND NOW, SINCE I DIDN'T START THIS FRACAS, I DON'T FEEL I HAFTA STAY AROUND TO FINISH IT! SO ADIOS, BOYS!
HE'S GETTIN' AWAY! STOP 'IM!
:OOOFF--:


LET'S GO, NIGHTWIND! TIME TO MAKE TRACKS!
BLAST IT-- IF ONLY I HAD HARDWARE!
I'M TOTIN' A GUN! BUT, I AIN'T FOOL ENUFF TO AIM IT AT THE FASTEST DRAW IN THE TERRITORY!

LET 'IM GO! GOOD RIDDANCE TO 'IM!
YEH, THE YELLA-BELLY WON'T CAUSE TROUBLE HERE AGAIN!
IT DOESN'T MATTER WHERE I GO--OR HOW FAR I RIDE--I ALWAYS LOSE OUT IN THE END TO SUSPICION AND FEAR OF A GUNMAN'S REP THAT I NEVER EARNED!

AND, AS THE KID GALLOPS FROM TOWN, TWO HARD-FACED MEN WATCH WITH SARDONIC AMUSEMENT...
THE BOSS SURE CALLED THE TUNE RIGHT!
IT WORKED LIKE A CHARM!
C'MON, LET'S HEAD BACK TO THE SPREAD!

LATER, ON THE SPRAWLING RANCH OF GREGORY KANE...
SO OWENS LOSES HIS REWARD... AND HIS LAND!
UNLESS HE CAN FIGURE OUT ANOTHER WAY TO RAISE THE MORTGAGE MONEY!
IT WOULDN'T MATTER NOW, EVEN IF HE DOES GET THE MONEY!
HUH? WHUTTA YUH MEAN?

I MEAN NOW THAT WE'VE MADE THE RAWHIDE KID OUR PATSY, WE DON'T HAVE TO PUSSYFOOT AROUND WITH OWENS ANYMORE!

WE CAN RUN HIM OFF HIS LAND RIGHT NOW, AND EVERYONE WILL THINK IT WAS THE KID AND HIS "PARDS" WHO DID IT FOR REVENGE!

THEN WHUT ARE WE WAITIN' ON?

NOT A THING! LOAD YOUR HARDWARE, BOYS! WE'RE GOING NIGHT-RIDING!

NOW YOU'RE TALKIN', BOSS! I'VE BEEN SPOILIN' FER A SCRAP!

AND, AS THE PLUNDERERS MOUNT UP, THEIR INTENDED VICTIMS PONDER THEIR HOPELESS PLIGHT...

I LEARNED THAT THE RAWHIDE KID DIDN'T BUST OUT OF JAIL!

THE SHERIFF FREED HIM, 'CAUSE THERE'S NO WARRANT OUT ON HIM IN THIS COUNTY!

THEN, EVEN IF I HAD THE NERVE TO COLLECT THE REWARD, I COULDN'T, 'CAUSE THERE IS NONE!

WHAT HAPPENS TO US NOW, PA?

I WISH I KNEW, TIM... I WISH I KNEW...

THEY CAUSED ME NOTHING BUT TROUBLE...

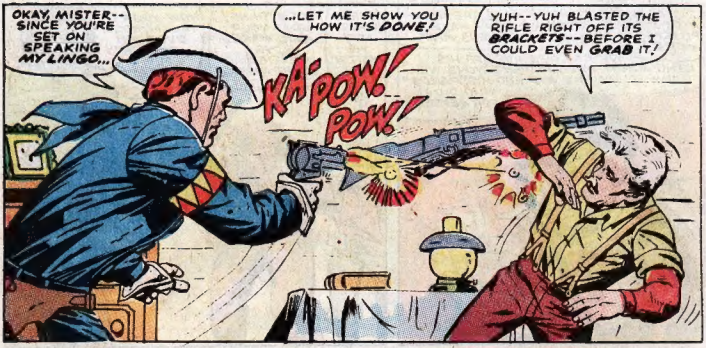
BUT SOMEHOW, I FEEL TOO SORRY FOR 'EM TO JUST RIDE OFF! I WANT TO HELP THEM IF I CAN!

MISTER OWENS, WE'VE GOTTA DO SOME STRAIGHT TALKING!

-GASP- THE KID!!

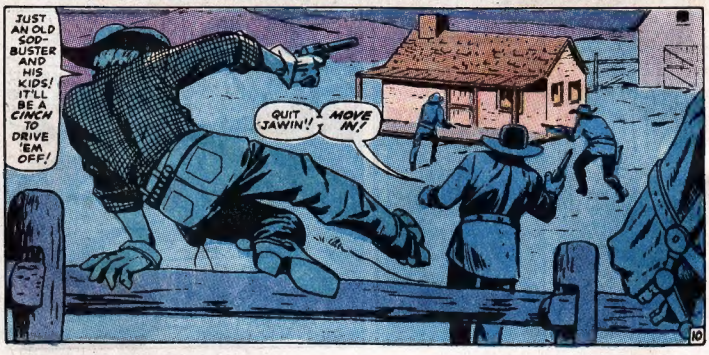
NO, STOP! DON'T GRAB YOUR RIFLE! I DON'T AIM TO HURT YOU OR YOUR KINFOLK!

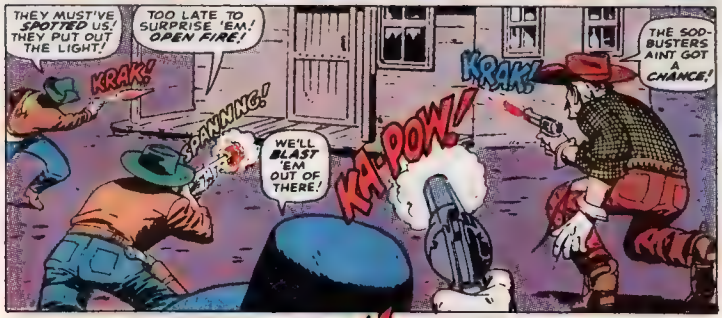
NOT MUCH YUH DON'T! OUT OF MUH WAY, HONEY! THERE'S ONLY ONE LINGO THIS OWLHOOT UNDERSTANDS!


OKAY, MISTER--SINCE YOU'RE SET ON SPEAKING MY LINGO...
...LET ME SHOW YOU HOW IT'S DONE!
KA-POW! POW!
YUH--YUH BLASTED THE RIFLE RIGHT OFF ITS BRACKETS--BEFORE I COULD EVEN GRAB IT!

NOW, MAYBE YOU'LL SIMMER DOWN AND HEAR ME OUT!
FIRST OFF--THOSE MEN WHO AMBUSHED YOU WEREN'T MY PARDS!
THEN WHO WERE THEY?
IT'S MY GUESS THEY'RE WORKING FOR WHOEVER WILL TAKE OVER YOUR LAND, IF YOU CAN'T MEET THE NOTE!

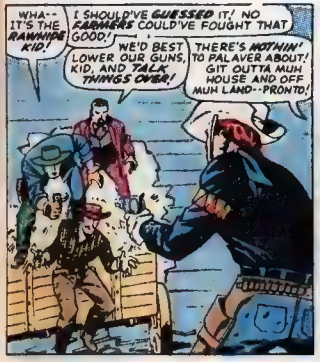
THAT WOULD BE GREGORY KANE, THE BIGGEST RANCHER IN THESE PARTS! I KNEW THAT KANE WAS RUTHLESS, BUT I DIDN'T RECKON HE'D STOOP TO--
WAIT--BE STILL! I HEAR FOOTSTEPS OUTSIDE!
ARE YOU SURE? I DON'T HEAR ANYTHING!
YOU'RE NOT AN OUTLAW! YOU DON'T HAVE TO TRAIN YOURSELF TO HEAR SOUNDS IN THE NIGHT! I DO!


JUST AN OLD SOD-BUSTER AND HIS KIDS! IT'LL BE A CINCH TO DRIVE 'EM OFF!
QUIT JAWIN'! MOVE IN!

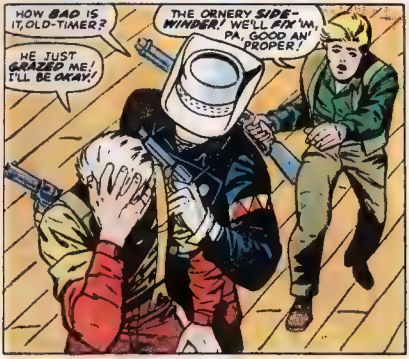


CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

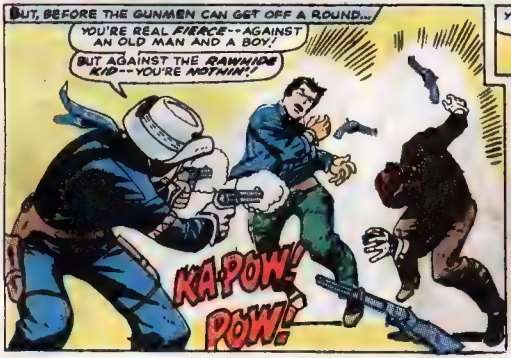
BUT, AS THE GUN BATTLE RAGES ON...
THE OLD MAN AND HIS KIDS ARE PUTTING UP A BETTER FIGHT THAN I COUNTED ON!
FOLLOW ME BOYS!
WHUT YUH GOT IN MIND, BOSS?
WE'RE SITTING DUCKS OUT THERE IN THE OPEN! WE GOTTA GET US SOME COVER!
THEY RAN INTO THE BARN!
DO YUH RECKON THEY'RE GONNA HOLE UP IN THERE?
NO! THEY'RE HUNGRY FOR THIS LAND... AND THEY CAN'T GET IT BY HIDING!
THEY'LL BE BACK! BELIEVE IT!
AND, IT DOESN'T TAKE LONG FOR THE KID'S PREDICTION TO PROVE TRUE!
HERE THEY COME AGAIN!
THEY'VE GOT MUH WAGON! THEY'RE USIN' IT FOR COVER! I CAN'T GET A BEAD ON'EM!
OWENS--TIM--CATHY--GET BACK! QUICK!
TRRASH!
HOW CLOSE SHOULD WE PUSH IT, BOSS?
ALL THE WAY! WE'RE GONNA RAM INTO THE HOUSE!
AND THERE'S NO WAY THEY CAN STOP US!
WE'RE THRU THE WALL!
NOW WE CAN GET AT THEM SODBUSTERS!
C'MON--LET'S TAKE 'EM!
12


WHA--IT'S THE RAWHIDE KID!
I SHOULD'VE GUESSED IT! NO FARMERS COULD'VE FOUGHT THAT GOOD!
WE'D BEST LOWER OUR GUNS, KID, AND TALK THINGS OVER!
THERE'S NOTHIN' TO PALAVER ABOUT! GIT OUTTA MUH HOUSE AND OFF MUH LAND--PRONTO!

YOU GOT A BIG MOUTH, PLOW-PUSHER! TOO DANG BIG!
OWENS!
KRAK!
PA--


HOW BAD IS IT, OLD-TIMER?
HE JUST GRAZED ME! I'LL BE OKAY!
THE ORNERY SIDE-WINDER! WE'LL FIX 'M, PA, GOOD AN' PROPER!

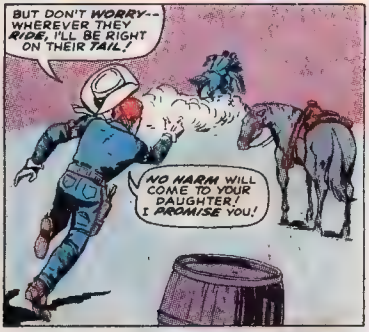
YOU'LL NEED HARDWARE FOR THAT, SONNY--AND YUH JUST LOST YOURS!
THE ODDS ARE GETTIN' BETTER, BOSS!
YEH--THERE'S NO NEED FOR JAWIN'! NOW WE CAN TAKE EM! OPEN FIRE!

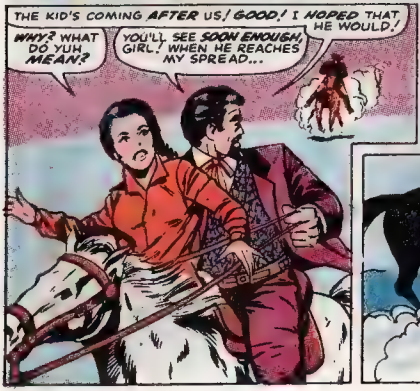

BUT, BEFORE THE GUNMEN CAN GET OFF A ROUND...
YOU'RE REAL FIERCE--AGAINST AN OLD MAN AND A BOY!
BUT AGAINST THE RAWHIDE KID--YOU'RE NOTHIN'!
KA-POW! POW!

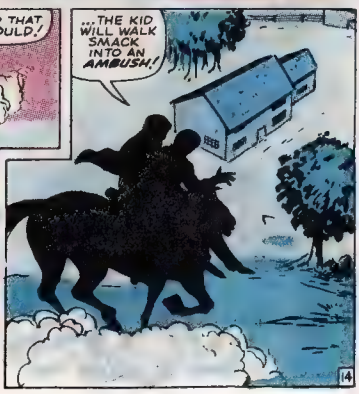
Y-YOU GOT MY BOYS, BUT YOU WON'T GET ME, KID!
C'MERE, GAL! YOU'RE MY TICKET OUT OF HERE!
WHA--

LET HER GO, YELLA-BELLY--OR S'HELP ME...
KEEP BACK, OWENS! HE MEANS BUSINESS!
YOU'D BETTER BELIEVE IT!
I'M WALKING OUT THE DOOR...AND THE GAL'S COMING WITH ME!
ANY INTERFERENCE AND SHE'S A GONER!

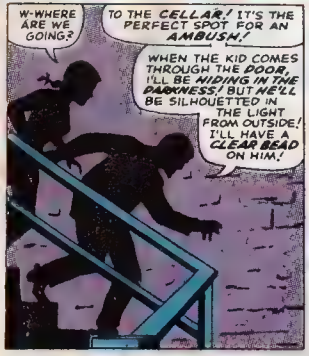
OKAY, MISTER, TAKE OFF! WE WON'T STOP YOU!
THAT'S A WISE CHOICE, FRIEND! ADIOS, TILL WE MEET AGAIN...
NO, KID! YUH CAN'T LET THE POLECAT TAKE CATHY AS A HOSTAGE!
I MUST! HER LIFE DEPENDS ON IT!

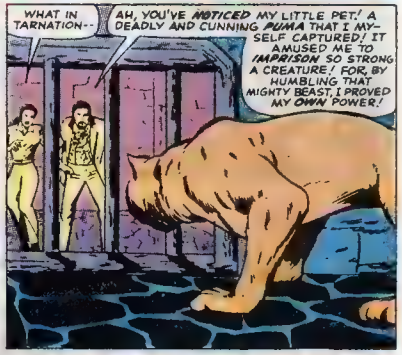

BUT DON'T WORRY--WHEREVER THEY RIDE, I'LL BE RIGHT ON THEIR TAIL!
NO HARM WILL COME TO YOUR DAUTHTER, I PROMISE YOU!

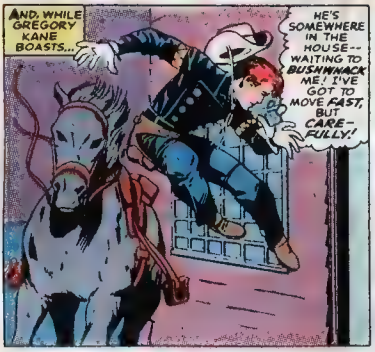

THE KID'S COMING AFTER US! GOOD! I HOPED THAT HE WOULD!
WHY? WHAT DO YUH MEAN?
YOU'LL SEE SOON ENOUGH, GIRL! WHEN HE REACHES MY SPREAD...

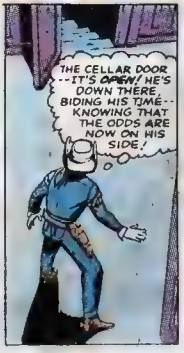

...THE KID WILL WALK SMACK INTO AN AMBUSH!

THE MEDDLING YOUNG SQUIRT GUNNED MY MEN AND RUINED MY PLANS!
NOW HE'LL PAY FOR IT!
KID--GO BACK! IT'S A TRAP!
IT'S USELESS TO WARN HIM! HIS BREED DOESN'T SCARE! THAT'S THEIR UNDOING!


W-WHERE ARE WE GOING?
TO THE CELLAR! IT'S THE PERFECT SPOT FOR AN AMBUSH!
WHEN THE KID COMES THROUGH THE DOOR, I'LL BE HIDING IN THE DARKNESS! BUT HE'LL BE SILHOUETTED IN THE LIGHT FROM OUTSIDE! I'LL HAVE A CLEAR BEAD ON HIM!


WHAT IN TARNATION--
AH, YOU'VE NOTICED MY LITTLE PET! A DEADLY AND CUNNING PUMA THAT I MYSELF CAPTURED! IT AMUSED ME TO IMPRISON SO STRONG A CREATURE! FOR, BY HUMBLING THAT MIGHTY BEAST, I PROVED MY OWN POWER!


AND, WHILE GREGORY KANE BOASTS...
HE'S SOMEWHERE IN THE HOUSE--WAITING TO BUSHWHACK ME! I'VE GOT TO MOVE FAST, BUT CAREFULLY!


THE CELLAR DOOR--IT'S OPEN! HE'S DOWN THERE, BIDING HIS TIME--KNOWING THAT THE ODDS ARE NOW ON HIS SIDE!

BUT I CAN'T QUIT--NOT WHILE HE STILL HAS THE GAL! I MUST PLAY IT OUT TO THE END!

MY EYES AREN'T USED TO THE DARKNESS YET! CAN'T SEE WHAT'S DOWN THERE!
I'LL HAVE TO RELY ON MY HEARING-- TO LISTEN FOR THE SOUND OF HIS GUN HAMMER COCKING A SPLIT-SECOND BEFORE HE FIRES! THERE IT IS!
CLICK

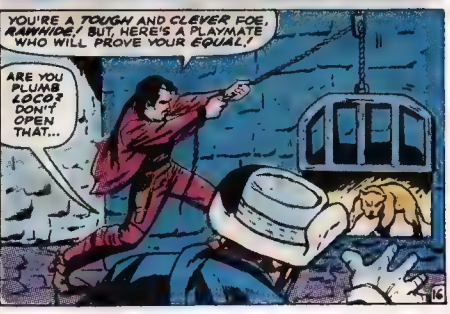
AND AS KANE SQUEEZES THE TRIGGER, HIS FOREWARNED VICTIM LUNGES TO ONE SIDE!
I DODGED HIS SHOT!
AND NOW THAT I'VE SEEN HIS GUN FLASH...
KRAK!

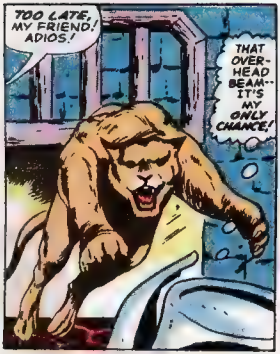
KA-POW!
...I'LL PUT 'IM OUT OF BUSINESS!
I MISSED! UNHH--

OKAY, MISTER-- YOU TRIED GUNPLAY... AND I WON!
BUT IT'S NOT OVER YET!
YOU'RE NOT GETTING OFF THE HOOK SO EASY!
WE'RE GONNA FINISH UP THIS FRACAS WITH OUR DUKES!

AND THIS IS JUST A SAMPLE OF WHAT'S TO COME!
POW!

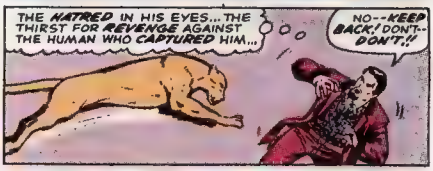
C'MON BACK AND FIGHT, YELLA-BELLY! YOU CAN'T GET AWAY FROM ME!
EVERYTHING RUINED! I'M BEATEN! ONLY ONE DESPERATE GAMBLE LEFT!


YOU'RE A TOUGH AND CLEVER FOE, RAWHIDE! BUT, HERE'S A PLAYMATE WHO WILL PROVE YOUR EQUAL!
ARE YOU PLUMB LOCO? DON'T OPEN THAT...

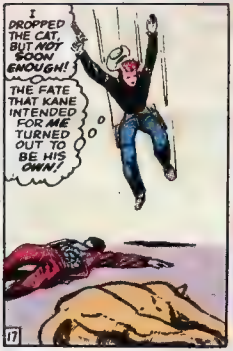

TOO LATE, MY FRIEND! ADIOS!
THAT OVER-HEAD BEAM-- IT'S MY ONLY CHANCE!

-WHEW- I MADE IT, WITH NOTHIN' TO SPARE!
BUT, IT'S NOT OVER YET! NOT BY A LONG SHOT!

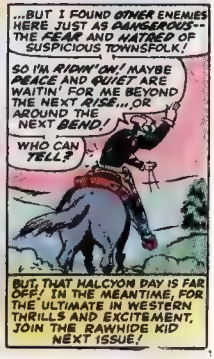
THE PUMA IS GETTIN' SET TO ATTACK AGAIN! CATHY--UP THE STAIRS! GET OUT OF HERE, WHILE YOU CAN!
T-THE CAT IS TURNING TOWARD ME...


THE HATRED IN HIS EYES... THE THIRST FOR REVENGE AGAINST THE HUMAN WHO CAPTURED HIM...
NO--KEEP BACK! DON'T-- DON'T!!

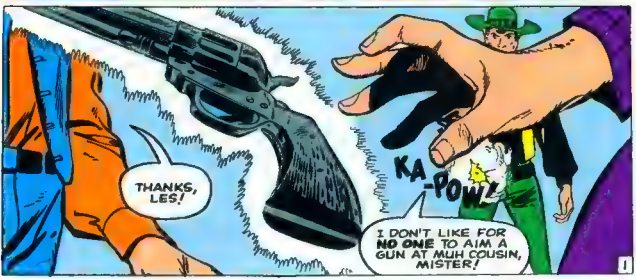
KANE'S IN THE WAY! I CAN'T GET A BEAD ON THE CAT!
THERE! I'VE GOT IT NOW!
KA-POW!


I DROPPED THE CAT, BUT NOT SOON ENOUGH!
THE FATE THAT KANE INTENDED FOR ME TURNED OUT TO BE HIS OWN!
17

LATER, AT THE OWENS' SPREAD...
WITH KANE DEAD, THE BANK NOW HOLDS OUR NOTE... AND THEY'VE PROMISED US AN EXTENTION! SO IT 'PEARS THAT WE GET TO KEEP OUR FARM!
AND IT'S ALL THANKS TO YOU! ARE YUH SURE YUH WON'T STAY ON IN THESE PARTS? THE LAW HERE ISN'T AFTER YOU!
I KNOW...


...BUT I FOUND OTHER ENEMIES HERE JUST AS DANGEROUS-- THE FEAR AND HATRED OF SUSPICIOUS TOWNSFOLK!
SO I'M RIDIN' ON! MAYBE PEACE AND QUIET ARE WAITIN' FOR ME BEYOND THE NEXT RISE... OR AROUND THE NEXT BEND!
WHO CAN TELL?
BUT THAT HALCYON DAY IS FAR OFF! IN THE MEANTIME, FOR THE ULTIMATE IN WESTERN THRILLS AND EXCITEMENT, JOIN THE RAWHIDE KID NEXT ISSUE!

WITH GUN IN HAND!



WHO ARE YUH, MISTER? WHERE'D YUH LEARN TO HANDLE A GUN THATAWAY?
MUH HANDLE'S LES COOPER, AND I'M JUST NATURALLY THE FASTEST GUN IN THESE PARTS!
WELL, I CAN SHORE USE A HOMBRE WHO'S HANDY WITH HIS IRONS LIKE YOU, BUT I GOT NO NEED FOR YOUR COUSIN THERE!
THEN IT'S NO DEAL! JOE AND ME ALWAYS WORK TOGETHER!
WHY DO I HAVE TO BE A GUN-MAN? I'M ASKIN' FOR A JOB AS A COWHAND, NOT A GUNSLINGER!
AN HOMBRE WITHOUT GUNS CAN'T LAST A WEEK IN THESE PARTS! THIS IS MIGHTY RUGGED COUNTRY!
IT'S LIKE I ALWAYS TOLD YUH, JOE! IF A MAN DOESN'T WEAR SHOOTIN' IRONS, HE'S BAIT FOR BOOT HILL!
I'M SORRY, LES! RECKON YUH BETTER TAKE THE JOB YOUR-SELF! I'LL BE RIDIN' ON!
NOPE! SOME-ONE'S GOTTA TAKE CARE OF YUH! LET'S GO, AMIGO!
A MAN WITH-OUT GUNS, IN THIS COUNTRY! I WOULDN'T HAVE BELIEVED IT!
A DAY'S HARD RIDING FOUND LES AND JOE COOPER ENTERING THE COWTOWN OF WAYNEVILLE ...
LOOK! A COUPLE OF STRANGERS! GOOD! MEBBE WE CAN DRUM UP A LITTLE EXCITEMENT WITH 'EM!
2

I DON'T LIKE THE LOOKS OF 'EM, JOE! MEBBE YOU'D BETTER BUY YORE-SELF A COUPLE OF COLTS!
I CAN'T, LES! YUH REMEMBER THE PROMISE I MADE TO MAW, AFTER PAW DIED IN THAT GUNFIGHT! I SWORE I'D NEVER USE A GUN AGAIN! I CAN'T BREAK THAT PROMISE, JOE!

HEY???
HEY, STRANGERS! I RECKON WE'LL GIVE YOU A LITTLE WELCOME TO WAYNEVILLE! HAW! HAW!

NOW DO A LITTLE DANCE FOR THE FOLKS, STRANGER!
BE CAREFUL, FOOL! THOSE BULLETS ARE RICH-OCHETING!

LEGGO OF MY COUSIN, YUH ORNERY COWARD!

TAKE COVER, JOE! THIS IS A SHOOTIN' MATTER!
I'LL GIT YUH FER THAT!
3

HE AIN'T A'GONNA SHOOT NOBODY NO MORE! LEAST-WAYS, NOT WITH THAT ARM, HE AIN'T!

I SAW THAT, STRANGER!
LOOK OUT, LES! IT'S THE SHERIFF!

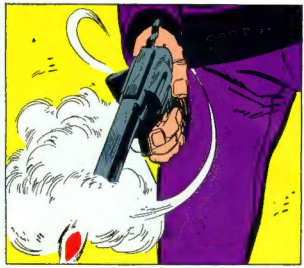
DON'T FRET NONE, BOYS! IT WUZ SELF-DEFENSE! YUH DON'T HAVE TO WORRY! AT LEAST YUH DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT ME!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, SHERIFF?
WHO DO WE HAVETA WORRY ABOUT?

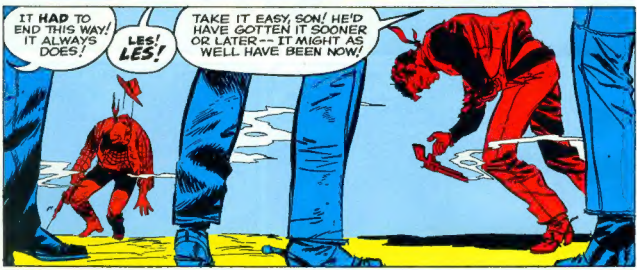
YUH GOTTA WATCH OUT NOW FOR EVERY GUN-HAPPY RANNY IN THESE PARTS! FOLKS SAW THAT FAST DRAW OF YORES, AND THE WORD'LL SPREAD! PRETTY SOON EVERY GUNNIE IN THE TERRITORY WILL BE LOOKIN' FOR YUH, TO PROVE HE'S FASTER THAN YOU ARE!

HERE'S ONE HOMBRE THAT IS FASTER! I'M CALLIN' ON YUH TO DRAW, MISTER! I'M GONNA PAY YUH BACK FOR GUNNIN' MY PAL, NATCHEZ!

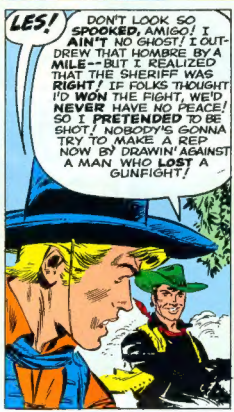
HOLD ON, CALHOUN! YOU KNOW YOU AND NATCHEZ HATED EACH OTHER!
DON'T MAKE NO NEVER MIND! NO STRANGER CAN CLAIM HE'S THE FASTEST GUN WHEN I'M AROUND!
IGNORE 'IM, LES! YOU CAN'T DRAW AGAINST EVERYBODY WHO CALLS YUH!
4

CALHOUN, IF'N YUH DRAW THAT GUN, IT'LL BE MURDER! I'LL TAKE YUH IN!
YUH'LL HAVE TO GIT ME, FIRST! NOW DRAW, STRANGER!




IT HAD TO END THIS WAY! IT ALWAYS DOES!
LES! LES!
TAKE IT EASY, SON! HE'D HAVE GOTTEN IT SOONER OR LATER -- IT MIGHT AS WELL HAVE BEEN NOW!

A FEW HOURS LATER, A LONE RIDER, HEART FILLED WITH SORROW, SLOWLY JOGGED OUT OF TOWN...
IT WASN'T RIGHT FOR LES TO GO THAT WAY! HE DIDN'T DESERVE IT! HE --
HEY, JOE! WAIT UP, AMIGO!
5


LES!
DON'T LOOK SO SPOOKED, AMIGO! I AIN'T NO GHOST! I OUT-DREW THAT HOMBRE BY A MILE -- BUT I REALIZED THAT THE SHERIFF WAS RIGHT! IF FOLKS THOUGHT I'D WON THE FIGHT, WE'D NEVER HAVE NO PEACE! SO I PRETENDED TO BE SHOT! NOBODY'S GONNA TRY TO MAKE A REP NOW BY DRAWIN' AGAINST A MAN WHO LOST A GUNFIGHT!

YORE MOM KNEW WHAT SHE WAS TALKIN' ABOUT, AMIGO! NO ONE'S INTERESTED IN FIGHTIN' AN UNARMED MAN, SO I RECKON WE BOTH GOT A HEAP OF LIVIN' TO DO FROM NOW ON!
THE END

RAWHIDE KID

APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

MARVEL COMICS GROUP

12¢ NOV. | $5 DEC

ALONE... OUTNUMBERED... RAWHIDE FACES THE BLAZING-HOT SIX-GUNS OF...

THE PLUNDERERS!